

WHAT IS CLAIMED:

Accordingly, the invention should only be limited by the Claims included below.

We claim

- 1 1. A method of obtaining and displaying to a user, information that is
2 relevant to a construction project, said method comprising the steps of:
3 storing in a database, design data, said design data including at
4 least one material list quantity associated with the electronic design;
5 automatically exporting at least one design element;
6 retrieving the design data which was exported;
7 associating retrieved design data with user input data; and
8 displaying to the user, the design data associated to the user input
9 data.

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- 1 2. The method of claim 1 wherein the design data is initially stored in a
2 design database, and the step of storing the design data in the user
3 database includes importing the design data from an electronic drawing
4 software application tool.

1 3. The method of claim 1 wherein the design data includes
2 construction project material information, and the method further
3 comprises exporting that information into a graphical user interface.
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1 4. The method of claim 1 wherein the user is a project manager,
2 planner or estimator; the design data is construction building information;
3 and the input data is material quantities, and the step of electronically
4 viewing the design and input data includes the steps of:

5 storing the design and input data into a memory; and
6 interfacing the memory with a database application that
7 electronically stores the data for use by the user.

1 5. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of retrieving data includes
2 automatically importing data from a precision estimating application.

1 6. A system for obtaining and displaying to a user, information that is
2 relevant to a construction project, said system comprising:

3 a user database for storing design data from computer aided design
4 software, said design data including at least one design material; an
5 interface that automatically imports computer aided design information and
6 retrieves design information in which the design data is utilized;

7 means for associating the retrieved design data with quantities and

8 descriptions; and

9 a user display that displays the design data, a list of the materials, a
10 quantity associated with each material and a description associated with
11 each material.

1 7. The system of claim 6 wherein the design data from a computer
2 aided design application is initially exported into a design database, and
3 the system further comprises means for importing the design data from the
4 design database into the user database.

1 8. The system of claim 6 wherein the user is a project manager and
2 the design data is construction information and is relevant to the user.

1 9. The system of claim 6 further comprising:
2 a memory for storing the exported design data;
3 means for creating a document by the user, said document creating
4 means including means for importing information from a database and
5 utilizing the data in the document; and
6 a report generation application interfaced with the document
7 creating means that electronically creates work plan documents initiated by
8 the user for a time period selected by the user.

1 10. A system for processing and outputting construction execution
2 documents in the construction industry comprising:

3 a central processing unit; knowledge base database; computer aided
4 design interface means for exporting element and assembly information to
5 ascii file; estimating software interface for maintaining the material list
6 information to knowledge base database; application means of updating
7 material, assembly and element data; cost update means to recalculate
8 costs; report generation means to output construction work plan; project
9 means to output project plan for a user specified period; report means to
10 generate construction execution documents and computer aided design
11 means to import updated element and assembly data.

1 11. The system of claim 10, wherein computer aided design means
2 redraws assemblies and elements in green to show project status as
3 on-time.

1 12. The system of claim 10, wherein the computer aided design means
2 redraws assemblies and elements in the color yellow to show project
3 status as in process.

1 13. The system of claim 10, wherein the computer aided design means
2 redraws assemblies and elements in the color red to show project

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status as behind schedule.